

## 2011 Oregon/Washington BLM Volunteer Program Summary

The BLM greatly appreciates the energy and enthusiasm of the thousands of volunteers who contribute their time and expertise to the public lands in Oregon and Washington.

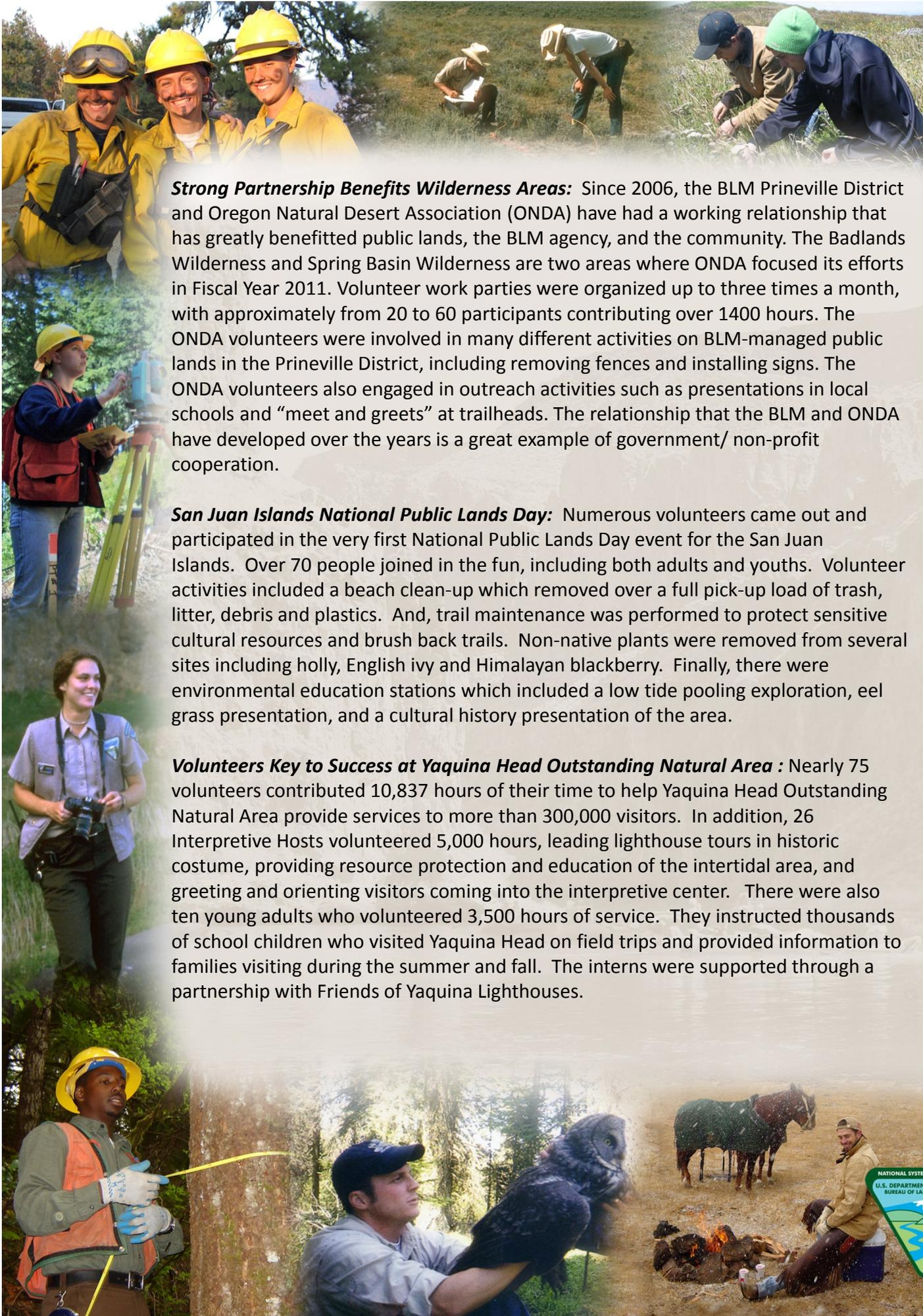
### *In Fiscal Year 2011:*

- Approximately **3,075 volunteers** donated a total of **192,704 hours** in support of BLM programs and activities.
- Over **1,700 youths** participated in the volunteer program, contributing nearly **44,000 hours** of the total for the year.
- The total volunteer time contributed was equivalent to the work of **107** full-time BLM employees – with 1 work year equal to 1,800 hours.
- The value of service at \$21.36 per hour is **\$4.1 million**.
- The top benefitting program was Recreation followed by Environmental Education/Interpretation and Biological Resources.

### *Program Highlights:*

**Annual River Cleanup Day Instills Community Pride:** The 19th annual Rogue River Cleanup took place on May 14, 2011, with over 240 registered volunteers of which 105 were youth under the age of 18. Volunteer groups participating in the 2011 event included: Jacoby Creek Middle School of Bayside CA; Boy Scouts of America; Military Veterans of the Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center; Key Club of North Valley High School; Master Recyclers of Southern Oregon; the Job Council of Josephine and Jackson Counties; AmeriCorps; and the Clean Forest Project. The Rogue River Cleanup is made possible through a partnership with Josephine County Parks and is supported by over 40 local businesses. Volunteers cleaned four miles of Back Country Byway roads and twenty-seven miles of river shoreline. There were eleven tires, one shopping cart, and over three tons of trash collected. Volunteers also pulled and bagged 6 cubic yards of invasive weeds at three sites on the river.





**Strong Partnership Benefits Wilderness Areas:** Since 2006, the BLM Prineville District and Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) have had a working relationship that has greatly benefitted public lands, the BLM agency, and the community. The Badlands Wilderness and Spring Basin Wilderness are two areas where ONDA focused its efforts in Fiscal Year 2011. Volunteer work parties were organized up to three times a month, with approximately from 20 to 60 participants contributing over 1400 hours. The ONDA volunteers were involved in many different activities on BLM-managed public lands in the Prineville District, including removing fences and installing signs. The ONDA volunteers also engaged in outreach activities such as presentations in local schools and “meet and greets” at trailheads. The relationship that the BLM and ONDA have developed over the years is a great example of government/ non-profit cooperation.

**San Juan Islands National Public Lands Day:** Numerous volunteers came out and participated in the very first National Public Lands Day event for the San Juan Islands. Over 70 people joined in the fun, including both adults and youths. Volunteer activities included a beach clean-up which removed over a full pick-up load of trash, litter, debris and plastics. And, trail maintenance was performed to protect sensitive cultural resources and brush back trails. Non-native plants were removed from several sites including holly, English ivy and Himalayan blackberry. Finally, there were environmental education stations which included a low tide pooling exploration, eel grass presentation, and a cultural history presentation of the area.

**Volunteers Key to Success at Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area :** Nearly 75 volunteers contributed 10,837 hours of their time to help Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area provide services to more than 300,000 visitors. In addition, 26 Interpretive Hosts volunteered 5,000 hours, leading lighthouse tours in historic costume, providing resource protection and education of the intertidal area, and greeting and orienting visitors coming into the interpretive center. There were also ten young adults who volunteered 3,500 hours of service. They instructed thousands of school children who visited Yaquina Head on field trips and provided information to families visiting during the summer and fall. The interns were supported through a partnership with Friends of Yaquina Lighthouses.